



# County of Los Angeles

## CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

June 9, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors  
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### FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

**Urban Area Homeland Security Grant Process Released:** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has released application guidelines for the second round of FFY 2003 grants to urban areas, totaling over \$501 million. According to the announcement, Los Angeles/Los Angeles County will receive \$18,874,838 and Long Beach/Los Angeles County will receive \$6,467,863. At least 80 percent of this funding must be passed through by the State. The State must use its portion (up to 20 percent), in the affected urban area as well. Working with the State, the "core county" and "core city" must provide written concurrence on the uses and allocation of the funds before they are released. No state or local match is required.

After numerous meetings on the draft guidance with the County's Washington advocates and others, the final guidelines confirm the approach outlined by DHS staff and reported to your Board on May 27, 2003. Under the guidelines, "States MUST ensure that the urban areas selected for funding take a regional metropolitan approach" (emphasis added by DHS). The administering agency within DHS, the Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP), "strongly encourages that, whenever possible, previously established local working groups be leveraged" as the basis for the Urban Area Working Group which will decide the allocation and uses of funding.

The guidelines establish a series of ambitious deadlines that the Urban Area Working Group must meet in order to receive funds. The 52 page guidance can be found on the Internet at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/UASIIIFY03GrantAppFinal.pdf>. A summary is attached.

While not a comprehensive list, a few of the key deadline dates are:

**July 7, 2003:** A plan to spend up to 25 percent of the overall award to support the development of an Urban Area Assessment and Homeland Security Strategy is due, pending written concurrence of the core city and county.

**September 30, 2003:** The Urban Area Assessment is due to ODP. The guidelines require the full representation of the following disciplines: law enforcement, emergency medical services, emergency management, the fire service, hazardous materials, public works, governmental administrative, public safety communications, healthcare and public health.

**October 31, 2003:** An Urban Area Homeland Security Strategy is due to ODP.

**November 30, 2003:** With the written concurrence of the core city and county, the State must submit to ODP a spending plan for the allocation of all remaining funds. No funds will be released until written concurrence is provided.

#### **Pursuit of County Position on Legislation**

Three bills, H.R. 3123 (Capps, D-CA), S. 502 (Boxer, D-CA) and S. 820 (Boxer, D-CA), dealing with perchlorate were introduced this year. H.R. 3123 would establish reporting requirements for perchlorate discharges, set penalties for violations, and create a perchlorate pollution prevention fund for loans to states; S. 502 would designate perchlorate as a contaminate and establish a maximum level for perchlorate; and S. 820 would establish a perchlorate pollution prevention fund and safety standards applicable to owners and operators of perchlorate facilities. No hearings have been scheduled for these bills and our Washington, D.C. advocates believe that these bills will not be acted on this year.

Perchlorate is a component of solid rocket fuel, ammunition, and fireworks. It has been found to contaminate water supplies in at least 19, and as many as 36 states, including California. According to the Department of Public Works, over 35 production wells in the San Gabriel Valley, 9 of 13 wells in the Pasadena/La Canada-Flintridge area and, 5 wells in Santa Clarita have been impacted or shut down because of perchlorate contamination.

Cleaning up perchlorate is seen as the responsibility of the Department of Defense (DOD). Senator Feinstein was able to have S. 1050 (Warner, R-VA), the National Defense Authorization Act for FFY 2004, amended to require DOD to report on the findings of a 2001 survey on perchlorate contamination of DOD sites. Senator Feinstein's staff indicated that they were pleased with this achievement and that the

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Senator hopes to add funding to the Defense Appropriations Bill for FFY 2004, to begin work on perchlorate treatment.

Support for S. 1050 as amended, and any appropriation for perchlorate treatment, is consistent with Board policy as approved by the Board on February 4, 2003, which supports proposals and funding for research and development of technologies to improve water quality with respect to brackish water, chromium 6, perchlorate, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), arsenic, radon, and disinfection byproducts. **Therefore, our Washington, D.C. advocates will pursue passage of S. 1050 and a Defense Appropriations Bill for FFY 2004 that includes funding for perchlorate treatment.**

We will continue to keep you advised of any new developments.

DEJ:GK  
MAL:DRS:ib

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
All Department Heads  
Legislative Strategist